

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1546

**Introduced by Assembly Member Olsen
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Daly and Ting)**

September 9, 2015

An act to amend Section 103526.5 of, and to add Section 103526.6 to, the Health and Safety Code, relating to vital records, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1546, as introduced, Olsen. Vital records.

Existing law prescribes specified personal information to be included on birth, death, and marriage certificates. Under existing law, a certified copy of a birth or death record may only be supplied by the State Registrar, local registrar, or county recorder to an authorized person, as defined, who submits a statement sworn under penalty of perjury that the applicant is an authorized person. Existing law also requires that each certified copy of a birth, death, or marriage record contain specified information and be printed on sensitized security paper with specified features, including, among others, intaglio print.

This bill would authorize a certified copy of a birth, death, or marriage record to include a feature other than intaglio print that provides equal or greater security protection than intaglio print.

Existing law requires the State Registrar to appoint a Vital Records Protection Advisory Committee to study and make recommendations to protect individual privacy, inhibit identity theft, and prevent fraud involving birth, death, and marriage certificates while providing needed access to the information contained in those records by persons seeking it for a legitimate purpose.

This bill would require the State Registrar, in consultation with the County Recorders' Association of California and other stakeholders, to study the feasibility of the continued use of intaglio print and the implementation of different security features for paper used to print a vital record. The bill would require the State Registrar to submit a report to the Legislature, on or before January 1, 2017, that contains the findings of that study and legislative recommendations pertaining to those findings.

This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Vote: $\frac{2}{3}$. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 103526.5 of the Health and Safety Code
2 is amended to read:
3 103526.5. (a) Each certified copy of a birth, death, or marriage
4 record issued pursuant to Section 103525 shall include the date
5 issued, the name of the issuing officer, the signature of the issuing
6 officer, whether that is the State Registrar, local registrar, county
7 recorder, or county clerk, or an authorized facsimile thereof, and
8 the seal of the issuing office.
9 (b) All certified copies of birth, death, and marriage records
10 issued pursuant to Section 103525 shall be printed on chemically
11 sensitized security paper that measures 8½ inches by 11 inches
12 and that has the following features:
13 (1) ~~Intaglio print.~~ *print, or another feature that provides equal*
14 *or greater security protection.*
15 (2) Latent image.
16 (3) Fluorescent, consecutive numbering with matching barcode.
17 (4) Microprint line.
18 (5) Prismatic printing.
19 (6) Watermark.
20 (7) Void pantograph.
21 (8) Fluorescent security threads.
22 (9) Fluorescent fibers.
23 (10) Any other security features deemed necessary by the State
24 Registrar.

1 (c) The State Registrar, local registrars, county recorders, and
2 county clerks shall take precautions to ensure that uniform and
3 consistent standards are used statewide to safeguard the security
4 paper described in subdivision (b), including, but not limited to,
5 the following measures:

6 (1) Security paper shall be maintained under secure conditions
7 so as not to be accessible to the public.

8 (2) A log shall be kept of all visitors allowed in the area where
9 security paper is stored.

10 (3) All spoilage shall be accounted for and subsequently
11 destroyed by shredding on the premises.

12 SEC. 2. Section 103526.6 is added to the Health and Safety
13 Code, to read:

14 103526.6. (a) The State Registrar, in consultation with the
15 County Recorders' Association of California and other
16 stakeholders, shall study the feasibility of the continued use of
17 intaglio print and the implementation of other security features for
18 paper used to print a vital record pursuant to Section 103525.

19 (b) (1) On or before January 1, 2017, the State Registrar shall
20 submit to the Legislature a report that contains the findings of the
21 study conducted pursuant to subdivision (a) and legislative
22 recommendations pertaining to those findings.

23 (2) A report submitted to the Legislature pursuant to this
24 subdivision shall be submitted in compliance with Section 9795
25 of the Government Code.

26 SEC. 3. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the
27 immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within
28 the meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go into
29 immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:

30 In order for the State Registrar to conduct a study regarding the
31 feasibility of continued use of intaglio print and the implementation
32 of other security features for paper used to print a vital record as
33 soon as possible, and to ensure timely reporting of the findings of
34 that study to the Legislature, it is necessary that this act take effect
35 immediately.